

Appl. No. 09/717,841
Amdt. Dated March 24, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Nov. 24, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (withdrawn): In a data acquisition system, a hand-held data processing assembly, comprising:

- (a) a base unit of size to be held in one hand during data acquisition;
and
- (b) indicia reader module means, assembled with said base unit, containing a reflected light indicia reader for non-contact essentially instantaneous reading of bar codes or the like disposed in spaced non-contacting relationship to the assembly.

Claim 2 (withdrawn): A data acquisition system according to claim 1, wherein said base unit comprises a light source for generating a light beam, the hand-held data processing assembly being orientable for directing a light beam from said light source toward the bar code or the like to be read.

Claim 3 (canceled)

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Claim 4 (withdrawn): A data acquisition system according to claim 1, wherein said base unit further comprises a battery for providing electrical power to the hand-held data processing assembly.

Claims 5-15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (currently amended): A data processing system, comprising:

- (a) a data processing assembly including an interface unit; and
- (b) a detachable reader unit detachably assembled with said interface unit;
- (c) said detachable reader unit comprising a non-contact data reader to read data disposed in non-contacting relationship to said reader unit[.];

wherein said data processing assembly is portable and wherein said detachable reader unit does not extend said data processing assembly's width or length when attached thereto.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The data processing system according to claim 16, wherein said interface unit comprises a display and a manual data input.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The data processing system according to claim 16, wherein said non-contact data reader comprises an optical indicia reader.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The data processing system according to claim 18, wherein said optical indicia reader comprises a bar code scanner.

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Claim 20 (previously presented): The data processing system according to claim 16,

further comprising:

a detachable reader unit receiving recess, formed into said interface unit,
said detachable reader unit receiving recess comprising an open side; and
a reading window, located on a reading side of said detachable reader unit,
capable of permitting reflected light energy to enter said detachable reader unit;
wherein said interface unit and said detachable reader unit cooperate such
that said reading side substantially closes said open side when said interface unit
and said detachable reader unit are coupled together.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The data processing system according to claim 20,
wherein said detachable reader unit is a user-detachable reader unit.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The data processing system according to claim 16,
wherein said interface unit further comprises a processor component.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A data processing system comprising a data processing
assembly, comprising:

- (a) a base unit having a recess; and
- (b) a detachable reader unit detachably assembled with said base unit;
- (c) said detachable reader unit comprising a non-contact data reader to read data
disposed in non-contacting relationship to said reader unit;

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(d) wherein the detachable reader unit is mounted in the recess of the base unit, and
wherein said base unit is portable.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The data processing system according to claim 23,
wherein said base unit comprises a display and a manual data input.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The data processing system according to claim 23,
wherein said non-contact data reader comprises an optical indicia reader.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The data processing system according to claim 25,
wherein said optical indicia reader comprises a bar code scanner.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The data processing system according to claim 23,
further comprising:

a reading window, located on a reading side of said detachable reader unit,
capable of permitting reflected light energy to enter said detachable reader unit;
wherein said recess comprises an open side, and wherein said base unit
and said detachable reader unit cooperate such that said reading side substantially
closes said open side when said base unit and said detachable reader unit are
coupled together.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The data processing system according to claim 27,
wherein said detachable reader unit is a user-detachable reader unit.

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Claim 29 (previously presented): The data processing system according to claim 23, wherein said base unit further comprises a processor component.

Claim 30 (withdrawn): A data processing system comprising a data processing assembly, comprising:

- (a) a base unit; and
- (b) a detachable reader unit detachably assembled with said base unit;
- (c) said detachable reader unit comprising a non-contact data reader to read data disposed in non-contacting relationship to said reader unit;
- (d) wherein the detachable reader unit has an edge that contains a scanner window for receiving a reflected bar code image.

Claim 31 (withdrawn): The data processing system according to claim 30, wherein said base unit comprises a display and a manual data input.

Claim 32 (withdrawn): The data processing system according to claim 30, wherein said non-contact data reader comprises an optical indicia reader.

Claim 33 (withdrawn): The data processing system according to claim 32, wherein said optical indicia reader comprises a bar code scanner.

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Claim 34 (withdrawn): The data processing system according to claim 30, further

comprising:

a reader unit receiving recess, formed into said base unit, said reader unit receiving recess comprising a open side;

wherein said base unit and said detachable reader unit cooperate such that said edge substantially closes said open side when said base unit and said detachable reader unit are coupled together.

Claim 35 (withdrawn): The data processing system according to claim 34, wherein said detachable reader unit is a user-detachable reader unit.

Claim 36 (withdrawn): The data processing system according to claim 30, wherein said base unit further comprises a processor component.

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Claim 37 (previously presented): A data gathering system, comprising:

a user-supportable reader module receiving unit, comprising a reader module receiving recess, said reader module receiving recess comprising a first open side;

a detachable non-contact reader module capable of being coupled with said user-supportable reader module receiving unit via said reader module receiving recess, said detachable non-contact reader module being capable of reading data disposed in non-contacting relationship to said detachable non-contact reader module; and

a reading window, located on a reading side of said detachable non-contact reader module, capable of permitting reflected light energy to enter said detachable non-contact reader module;

wherein said user-supportable reader module receiving unit and said detachable non-contact reader module cooperate such that said reading side substantially closes said first open side when said user-supportable reader module receiving unit and said detachable non-contact reader module are coupled together.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The data gathering system of claim 37, wherein said detachable non-contact reader module comprises a housing having five sides in addition to said reading side and wherein said user-supportable reader module receiving unit comprises a second open side located adjacent to said first open side and wherein said second open side is also substantially closed when said user-supportable reader module receiving unit and said detachable non-contact reader module are coupled together.

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Claim 39 (previously presented): The data gathering system of claim 38, wherein said detachable non-contact reader module is in generally the shape of a rectangular prism and wherein said reader module receiving recess is in generally the shape of a rectangular prism.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The data gathering system of claim 37, wherein said detachable non-contact reader module is a user-detachable module.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The data gathering system of claim 37, wherein said user-supportable reader module receiving unit further comprises a processor component.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The data gathering system of claim 41, wherein said user-supportable reader module receiving unit further comprises a battery.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The data gathering system of claim 37, wherein said detachable non-contact reader module comprises an optical indicia reader.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The data gathering system of claim 43, wherein said detachable non-contact reader module comprises a bar code scanner.

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General Authorization Under 37 CFR 1.136(a)(3)

The Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to treat this or any future response requiring a petition for an extension of time, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time.

In addition, the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees deemed due under 37 CFR 1.17 to Deposit Account 14-1190.

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